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[www.house.gov/shuster](http://www.house.gov/shuster)

Contact: Jeff Urbanchuk, Press Secretary

(202) 225-2431

(202) 593-1040 cell

(202) 225-2486 fax

[jg.urbanchuk@mail.house.gov](mailto:jg.urbanchuk@mail.house.gov)

## ***Shuster Secures \$100,000 for the I-99 Entrepreneurial Institute***

Washington, DC - **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that he has successfully secured \$100,000 in funding for the further development of the I-99 Entrepreneurial Institute.

“I am pleased to have played a role in the further development of the I-99 Entrepreneurial Institute, which plays an important role in job creation throughout central and western Pennsylvania,” **Shuster** said.

“Our region’s economic vitality rests on creating future business leaders and risk takers who are willing to bring innovative businesses to market right here in Pennsylvania,” **Shuster** added. “The I-99 Institute is that training ground and its location links it with growing centers of business like Washington, DC.”

The I-99 Entrepreneurial Institute is a partnership program between Pennsylvania State University - Altoona and the Altoona-Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD Corp.). The Institute serves as a formal bridge linking entrepreneurial learning and academic research with real-world business applications and experiences. This project is one piece of a comprehensive effort to promote economic development in the I-99 corridor.

The \$100,000 directed toward this project will enhance programs and opportunities already in place to foster economic development and support start-ups and the expansion of small businesses.

“We are grateful to Congressman Shuster for his continued support of the region and the I-99 Entrepreneurial Institute at Penn State Altoona. This funding will allow for advancement of the program and the future development of a physical presence in downtown Altoona. The Institute is made possible through partnerships forged with the City of Altoona, Penn State Altoona and local business leaders,” said **Martin J. Marasco**, President/CEO of ABCD Corp.

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